

NEWS RELEASE



***OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA
San Diego, California***

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For Immediate Release

NEWS RELEASE SUMMARY - July 6, 2004

United States Attorney Carol C. Lam announced that STEVE HANSOK KANG pled guilty today to committing five bank robberies in San Diego County.

According to Maura F. Quinn, the Assistant United States Attorney handling the case, KANG, dubbed the "Meal Time Bandit" because he committed the robberies at lunch or dinner time, admitted to robbing five banks from March 30 to April 10, 2004. KANG's admissions and documents filed with the Court established that KANG passed notes to bank tellers demanding money and claiming to have a gun. A total of \$9,033.50 was taken from the five banks. KANG was apprehended on April 17, 2004, after fleeing from a bank where employees recognized him as the Meal Time Bandit based on photographs circulated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Bank employees then notified police, who responded and caught KANG at a nearby bus stop. KANG was not armed when arrested.

KANG pled guilty to the five bank robbery counts today in front of the Honorable Napoleon A. Jones, Jr., United States District Court Judge. KANG's sentencing is set for September 20, 2004.

DEFENDANT

Steve Hansok Kang

SUMMARY OF CHARGES

18 U.S.C. § 2113(a) Bank robbery
Maximum penalty 20 years; \$250,000 fine for each count

AGENCIES

Federal Bureau of Investigation
San Diego Police Department
San Diego Sheriff's Department